

1b 1961

ALABAMA

County Had 1368 Farms In 1959 Census Reveals

Talladega Daily Home
Talladega, Ala.
The number of farms in Talladega County decreased from 2414 in 1954 to 1368, according to the first preliminary report on the 1959 census of agriculture. Of the county's approximately 480,000 acres, 187,393 were in farms in 1959 as against 277,534 five years earlier.

The number of non-white operators in 1959 was 447 as against 771 five years earlier. The report for 1959 lists 487 commercial farms. Seventeen of those have annual sales of \$40,000 or more; 23 sales of \$20,000 to \$39,999; 19 sales of \$10,000 to \$19,999; 62 have sales of \$5000 to \$9999; 161 had sales of \$2500 to \$4999 and 205 with sales of from \$50 to \$2499.

There were in 1959 681 part-time Talladega County farmers according to the report, which explained that the figure includes an operator under 65 working elsewhere than on the farm for 100 days in the year or with income from other sources greater than farm products sold.

In 1959 there were 757 telephones in county farm homes and 115649 home freezers. An indication of what farming means to the county's economy is contained in the report dealing with farm expenditures.

During 1959 farmers spent \$826,497 on feed for livestock and \$268,301 in purchase of stock and poultry; \$383,719 in the purchase of hired labor and other petroleum fuel and oil for farm operations.

In 1959 county farmers sold more than 5500 head of cattle, 1796439 hogs and pigs, 746,869 chickens and \$322,399 worth of milk and cream.

The census listed 12 farms in 1959 of from "1000 to 1999 acres." The number of white farm operators in 1959 was 921 as against 1643 in 1954.

The census showed the average size of county farms to be 137 acres with an average value in land and buildings of \$11,124. Of the county's farm operators 788 owned their land, 258 owned part of the land and rented added acreage and 312 were tenant farmers.

The average age of farm operators was 51.8 years, but there were 237 sturdy farmers 65 or more. While farms have been shrinking in number they have increased in average size, from 115649 home freezers in 1954 to 137 in 1959, and in average value, from \$6508 in 1954 to \$11,124 at the time of the census.

In 1954 there were in the county 284 farms of under 10 acres. In 1959 those small farms had decreased in number to only 95.

Here are figures on farms by employment of hired labor and sizes, the 1954 figure listed first and the 1959 statistics second:

Ten to 49 acres: 891 and 443; 50 to 69 acres: 224 and 119; 70 to 99 acres: 274 and 202; 100 to 139 acres: 237 and 150; 140 to 179 acres: 146 and 94; 180 to 219 acres: 95 and 59; 220 to 259 acres: 48 and 35; 260 to 499 acres: 128 and 102; 500 to 999 acres: 59 and 52; 1000 or more acres: 28 and 17.

The census listed 12 farms in 1959 of from "1000 to 1999 acres." The number of white farm operators in 1959 was 921 as against 1643 in 1954.



FIRST BALE OF COTTON FOR 1961 SOLD

The year's first bale of cotton from Montgomery County was sold at auction Monday, going for 70 cents a pound to the Normandale Merchants Association. Shown are (left to right) Bob Dickson, auctioneer who presided over the sale at Alabama Warehouse Co.; Amos Parker, who with son Connie grew the cotton for the 458-pound bale near Mount Meigs; and Aaron Aronov, representing Normandale.

DO YOU HAVE A *See Montgomery Advertiser* COTTON ALLOTMENT?

Montgomery, Ala.
Do You Want To Keep It From Getting Smaller
In Future Years?

If So, There Are Two Things You Can Do:

- Sat. 2-25-61*
1. You can plant your full allotment for 1961.
 2. If you can't plant your allotment, you can release it to the county ASC Committee, for redistribution to other farmers in your county. You will get full credit in 1962 just as if it had been planted.

What Happens If You Don't Release or Plant At Least 75% Of Your Allotment in 1961?

You lose in 1962.

How much will you lose if you don't plant or release it? You will lose approximately 50% of the amount that you underplant your allotment.

Who gets this acreage you lose in 1962?

Some of it may stay in your county, some of it may go to other counties in Alabama, but some of it will eventually wind up in other states to increase further the surplus at Alabama's expense.

**SO PLANT IF YOU CAN... IF YOU CAN'T
PLANT, THEN RELEASE BEFORE MARCH 15
AND HELP SAVE OUR COTTON INDUSTRY!**

THE FARMERS WHO WANT MORE COTTON ACREAGE MUST MAKE WRITTEN APPLICATION TO THEIR COUNTY ASC OFFICE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL ACRES REQUESTED. THIS MUST BE DONE BY MARCH 15, 1961.

Agricultural Chemical
Service Co.

Alabama Fertilizer
Company

Alabama Warehouse
Company

Capital Fertilizer
Company

First National Bank
Of Montgomery

Montgomery Chamber
of Commerce

Montgomery Cotton
Exchange

Montgomery Seed &
Supply Company

Mutual Warehouse
Company

Pennsalt Chemical
Corp.

Southern Cotton Oil Div.
Hunt Food & Industries,
Inc.

Stegall-Sylvest
Seed Company

Union Bank & Trust
Company

Virginia-Carolina
Chemical Corp.

PLANT. RELEASE OR LOSE in 1962

Alabama Farmers
Release Acreage
149,365 Acres For Cotton
To Be Reassigned

Transaction apparently legal—

Texan taking state cotton allotments in land deals

BY DAVE LANGFORD, News staff writer

CENTRE, Ala., March 30—A Texas land baron soon

may be planting cotton once allotted to Alabama farmers.

And, apparently, it's a perfectly legal business transaction to transfer hundreds of acres from cotton acreage allotment pools in at least two Alabama counties to Reeves County, Tex.

Amid hopes of protest from some community leaders, here's what has been happening in Cherokee and Barbour counties where farmers have been displaced by impending power dam waters.

For the past several days, a man identified as Douglas Younger, representing Billy Sol Estes of Pecos, Tex., has been offering a proposition to cotton farmers whose lands have been taken to make way for Weiss Dam at Centre and Walter F. George Lock and Dam in South Georgia.

BY LAW, THE cotton acreage allotments for these farms is placed in a county ASC pool. Under the eminent domain provision, the farmers have up to three years to transfer their allotments

to other farms, anywhere in the United States, according to ASC officials.

Younger is offering to sell them farms on Estes' estate at the rate of 3 3-10 acres for each acre they have in the cotton pool. He set the price at \$250 a acre for what he called "fully irrigated cotton land that will produce four bales per acre."

In turn, the Texas group agrees to cash lease the property back from the new Alabama owners. They agree to pay \$50 for each acre that can be transferred.

THE LAND PURCHASE is pay-agreement with "about 85 per cent" of the Barbour displaced farmers.

If the Alabama absentee owner fails to make that first installment, it was said, the Texas firm visiting farms in Cherokee County would foreclose and title to the land he reconveyed back to them.

The cotton acreage allotment remains in Texas.

The Texan is even offering to fly the Alabamians to Pecos, all expenses paid, to look over their new domain and to enact the transfer through the Reeves County.

ASC committee. "It's a scheme that will cost Cherokee County at least \$1 million, said Probate Judge Charles Formby.

HE SAID Alabama's congressional delegation has been advised about the land deal.

Rav Upton, Cherokee County ASC office manager, said there are about 22,000 acres in the county pool. Younger said he had already signed up about 300 acres.

"As far as we have been able to determine, Younger's plan is perfectly legal," Upton said.

County Agent J. J. Young said, "I hate to see all of that acreage go to Texas, but I'm not in a position to advise the farmers as to what they should do about this particular matter."

THERE ARE ABOUT 22,000 acres in cotton in Cherokee County, representing about 50 per cent of the county's farm income.

Barbour County ASC Manager Jim Wind said Younger had also been conferring with displaced cotton farmers in his county during that past two weeks.

"I don't know how many contacted with him," Wind said, "but several farmers asked me if it was legal after he had talked with them."

There are about 115 acres in that county's cotton pool, representing about 25 farms.

YOUNGER SAID he entered an

"WE NEED THE cotton acreage and they need the dollars."

Alabama Farm Leader Ed Mauldin of Town Creek, one of the drafters of the 1958 acreage transfer law, warned Alabamians against signing up with the Texas firm.

"If for no other reason it will ruin their credit rating when that outfit forecloses," he said. "This is another danger of the large corporate farms as opposed to the small family farms."

Mauldin said legislation should be drawn up to prevent this type of acreage transfer.

A CHEROKEE leader in the thick of the furor is J. Robert Davis, who is in the ginning and fertilizer business.

"I've talked with Rep. Albert Rains, my lawyers and their lawyers and as far as I can tell it's legal. But there's no telling how much money it will take out of this county."

"And, I'll tell you one thing I'm against any of my family giving up their cotton."

Estes was once described by American Mercury magazine as "The Powerhouse in Pecos."

IN A STORY under the byline of Karl Detzer the magazine described how Estes drove into the West Texas town in 1951 at the age of 26 and four years later had earned \$1 million.

"Dozens of other men have joined him in dozens of other ventures," the writer said, "most of them daring and paying off astonishingly well."

Negro Farmers Selected Best In Four State Area

Chicago Ill.
OWNER OF \$70,000 FARM,
AND TENANT JUST UP
FROM CROPPING, BEST IN
4 STATES FOR 1960

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The owner of a \$70,000 Mississippi cotton and dairy farm who borrowed the down-payment for his first piece of land, and a 35-year-old Missouri cash renter just up from 17 years of sharecropping, have been selected as the best farmers of four states for 1960.

These two outstanding Negro farmers are Tommie Bibbs of Winona, Miss., and J. W. Rencher of Oran, Mo. They and their families won the title of sweepstakes winners over 20,000 competitors in Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee.

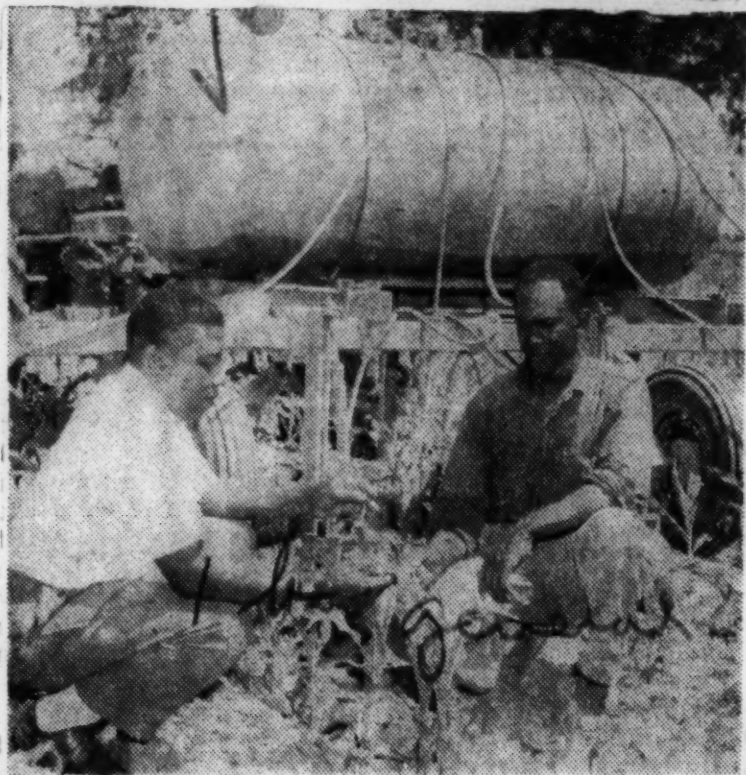
'PLANT TO PROSPER'

The awards of \$250 to the Bibbs family for the ownership division, and \$125 to the Renchers of the tenant division were presented recently during the "Plant to Prosper" rally at the Booker T. Washington high school in Memphis, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. Bibbs married and started farming on their own 31 years ago. They borrowed the money to make the down-payment on a hilly, run-down 160 acre farm that kept them up against it trying to make ends meet for 15 years.

Finally in 1945 they sold this farm for \$8 an acre, and paid down on the 235 acres they now own. "At first things didn't look much better," says Bibbs. The land was in poor condition and flooded every time it rained.

The first year they made only nine bales of cotton, which hardly brought enough to meet the note, because it rained a lot and grass choked out their crop. But they had learned two



GETTING POINTERS on applying liquid fertilizer is J. W. Rencher, right, of Oran, Mo., from his County agent, William D. Purnell. Rencher's lessons: (1) not to count on cotton alone, and (2) that rain sure makes grass grow.

TWO LESSONS

Their record of achievement in 1960 was based on those two lessons, plus the adoption of sound soil and water conservation practices. While the Bibbs raised 45 bales of cotton, they also produced 3,500 bushels of corn, 85 bushels of truck crops, and 22,000 gallons of Grade A milk.

They have been in dairying since 1946, taking advantage of rain and grass to develop good pastures. "We have pastures year-round," Bibbs points out, "and we raise enough grain and silage to cut our feed bill way-down."

Twenty-one Grade A dairy farmers have failed in this area

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Dewey Townsend, and their home demonstration agent, Mrs. Thelma Carson.

SHARECROPPER 17 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. Rencher sharecropped 17 years before they became cash renters in 1959. Now they have a tractor and are renting 80 acres. It is their dream to become owners within a few years.

"Not many farmers in Missouri apply the science of modern agriculture more than does Rencher," says County Agent William D. Purnell.

He plants cover crops, has his soil tested and applies fertilizer according to need, fights insects, and has a variety of farm enterprises in addition to cotton. Among these are cantaloupes and Landrace hogs for market, and poultry and a sizeable garden for his family of 10.

As a sideline, Rencher keeps tractors and mechanical cotton pickers in repair for miles around, and serves as mechanic at the gin.

The extra money from his part-time jobs, and the money saved by growing most of their food, are giving Mr. and Mrs. Rencher assurance that their dream of having a farm of their own will be realized, states Purnell.

was recently acclaimed in Memphis, Tenn., as one of the best farmers of 1960 in Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee.

in recent years because they did not raise enough feed for their cattle, says Mississippi Extension Leader W. E. Ammons.

Mr. and Mrs. Bibbs have been offered \$50,000 for their farm, not including their 70 Jerseys which are worth \$20,000. They have three sons: Purvis, who took auto mechanics at Mississippi Vocational college and is now working in Greenwood, Miss.; Charles, who is studying at Jackson college to be a teacher; and James, who helps with the chores after his high school classes.

In addition to the help they have received from SCS technicians assigned to their Soil Conservation District, they regularly get help in farm and home management from their vocational agriculture teacher.

Negro Farmers Show Drop Of 200,000 Throughout South

WASHINGTON — Agricultural census data indicate that the number of colored farmers in the South declined by nearly 200,000 between 1954 and 1959. The principal drop is thought to have been in the number of tenants and sharecroppers.

In 1954, there were 465,385 farmers in the 17 states of the Southern region — from Delaware around to Texas and Oklahoma. By 1959, the number had dropped to 273,137.

Sharpest drops took place in Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas. In most of these states the decline was close to 50 per cent or more.

In Arkansas, for example, the decline was from 31,173 to 14,672; Georgia from 39,532, to 20,172; Mississippi, 101,041 to 55,423, and Texas, from 27,529 to 15,510.

A minor part of the decline is accounted for by the change in the definition of a farm. Formerly, three acres or any size plot of land that produced agricultural products valued at \$150 or more for home use or for market was defined as a farm.

But in the 1959 census, a plot of land had to be 10 acres or more and must have sold \$50 or more of farm products or if smaller, it had to be producing \$250 worth of products annually to be classified as a farm. This eliminated a number of small plots from the count.

Approximately 98 per cent of all colored or nonwhite farmers in the South are Negro-Americans. The other two per cent may be composed of Indians, Japanese and Chinese.

Pay Stands At Bottom In America

Sharecropper Fund's Report Notes Signs Of Wage Progress

NEW YORK — (ANP)

Shocking conditions among America's two million seasonal and migrant farm workers were described last week by the National Sharecropper Fund in its annual report, "The Condition of Farm Workers in 1960."

"The average hired farm worker," the report stated, "can expect to earn the lowest wage in the entire American economy. His annual earnings will be less than \$900. He can expect to be unemployed about half the year," the report said.

THE REPORT pointed, however, to several recent signs of progress. "Impressive headway in raising the wages of farm workers was made in California last year as a result of the work of the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, AFL - CIO," it stated.

In the nation's capital, "liberal Congressmen succeeded—for the first time—in checking the corporate farm bloc when the Mexican farm labor program came up for extension."

The report said that public support for measures to end the poverty and neglect of farm workers was greatly enhanced last year as millions of Americans first learned of their needs from such television programs as the CBS reports "Harvest of Shame."

FEDERAL legislation to end the long exclusion of farm labor from the nation's social

labor legislation marks a new awareness of the problem, according to the report.

In 1960, the Senate subcommittee on migratory labor heard testimony on bills to extend minimum wage and child labor provisions of the fair labor standards act to agriculture, require the licensing of farm labor contractors, provide loans for improved housing for migrants and grants to help meet the costs of educational programs for migrants and their children.

ON THE DEBIT side for 1960, the report points out:

"The sudden attempt to evict Negro sharecroppers and tenant farmers in Tennessee's Fayette and Haywood counties, shortly after they had asserted their right to vote, dramatically illustrated the precarious situation of these people.

"Despite formal emancipation a hundred years ago, Southern rural Negroes have been kept in virtual servitude by a vicious cycle of poverty and indebtedness.

The National Sharecroppers Fund, which issued the report, has been working in the field of farm and migratory labor for 20 years.

DR. FRANK P. Graham is chairman of the Fund. Other board members include A. Philip Randolph, Norman Thomas, Eliot D. Pratt and Clarence Senior.

In Raleigh, N. C., last week the Governor's Committee on Migrant Labor had its bill to give local health departments authority to license migrant labor camps introduced in the Senate.

THE BILL would allow the State Health Department to set sanitary and other health standards for camps in 25 counties.

Highway patrolmen would be given authority for closer regulation of hauling of migrant workers under terms of another bill backed by the committee.

Licensing of camps is expected to give authorities a stronger position in enforcing health regulations. Senator Dennis Cook of Caldwell County is author of the bills.

President Asks Emergency Step To Aid Farmers

Memphis Press
Would Bolster Income By
Cutting Feed Grains,

Raising Price Props

By BERNARD BRENNER
United Press International Staff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.

President Kennedy Thursday sent to Congress an emergency proposal to bolster farm income by cutting 1961 production of surplus feed grains while raising price supports for feed grains, soybeans, and cotton seed.

It was the first major action by Kennedy on the farm front since he became President.

The Government now has nearly four billion dollars worth of surplus corn, grain sorghums, barley and oats—animal feed grains—piled up in storage under the present no-control price support program.

Says Program Has Failed

Kennedy said the existing program has failed and, unless Congress acts quickly, surpluses will increase this year while farm income continues to decline.

Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman said his experts estimate consumer prices for chickens and eggs would decline about two per cent if the Kennedy plan is adopted. There would be no change in beef and pork prices.

If Congress takes no action, Freeman said, the experts estimate chicken and egg prices would drop three to four per cent and beef and pork would decline one to two per cent.

Kennedy recommended offering 1961 Government feed grain price supports only to farmers who co-operate in a new Federal land retirement program by taking 20 per cent of their feed grain acreage out of production.

Conservation payments total-

ing up to 500 million dollars would be made to farmers who idled their fields under this provision. Growers who wanted to voluntarily retire another 20 per cent of their acreage would be allowed to do so in return for further payments in cash or surplus grains.

Kennedy's proposal would raise 1961 corn price supports to \$1.20 per bushel, about 12 per cent above the 1960 rate. Props for other feed grains would be raised proportionately.

Further Inducement

As a further inducement to farmers to shift away from corn in areas growing both corn and soybeans, Freeman announced he would use existing authority to raise soybean supports to \$2.30 per bushel. This would be about 24 per cent above the 1960 rate.

Freeman said supports for cotton seed, which competes with soybeans for markets, would also be raised "to a competitive relationship with soybeans."

Agriculture Department experts said the plan could raise the gross income of typical feed grain growers 10 to 12 per cent and net income even more with no measurable effect on consumer food prices.

Kennedy sent his proposed feed grain bill to Speaker Sam Rayburn and Vice President Lyndon Johnson with a letter asking for congressional approval of the bill by March 1.

Kennedy said he urgently recommended "the enactment of this emergency program so that it can cover the 1961 crop." Planting of the crop will begin next month in some areas, Freeman said.

Ala. Farmers Gross Over Half Billion

WASHINGTON—Farmers in the 16 states in the South Atlantic and south central regions received \$10,056,925,000 in cash receipts from their farm marketing in 1960. This was an increase of \$18,531,000 over the 1959 total.

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This was generally in line with the country as a whole. The Agriculture Department said that cash receipts from farm marketings in 1960 for the nation were up about 2 per cent from 1959 to a record level of \$33.7 billion.

Cash receipts received by farmers for 1960 and 1959, respectively, include:

Georgia, \$781,607,000 and \$717,810,000; Florida, \$764,037,000 and \$806,233,000; Tennessee, \$501,054,000 and \$520,360,000; Alabama, \$529,434,000 and \$512,118,000; Mississippi, \$526,180,000 and \$633,455,000.

U. S. Farm Population Drops to 15.6 Million

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN
needed for the military and war industries.

America's farm population sank to another all-time low last year, but those farms which remained apparently made more money than they had in recent years.

Latest census figures released today show that the total farm population numbered about 15.6 million in 1960—representing about 8.7 per cent of the Nation's total of 180 million.

In 1950, a census count listed 25.1 million on the farm, about 16.6 per cent of the Nation's total.

Trend Started by War

This shrinkage continued a population trend that began during the manpower-shy days of World War II, and which hasn't stopped yet.

Most experts seem to agree that while 8.7 per cent of the total population is a small figure (the Soviet Union's total is about 40 per cent), it is expected to drop even further in the next few years.

From 1910 to 1940, the farm population remained relatively stable at about 30 million, despite technological advances.

One reason for this stability was the depression which kept on sub-standard farms many people who were afraid to go to the cities because of a shortage of jobs there.

The war caused the farm population to drop to about 25 million in 1945 as men were

More Profitable Farms

In the fall of 1959, an economic survey was made of the Nation's 3.7 million farms, and it was found that the number of farms grossing over \$10,000 had increased by 36.2 per cent over the 1954 figure while the number of farms which grossed less than \$2,500.

In 1954, for instance, 2.7 million farms made less than \$2,500, while in 1959, this total had dropped to 1.6 million farms. Of this total, 1.2 million were only part-time farms.

Up to last year, farm population was determined by asking a person if he thought his house was on a "farm."

Last year, farm residence was determined on the basis of actual agricultural production.

As a result, many people who in the past considered themselves "farmers" were eliminated from the farm population. If the old system had been used in 1960, 20.5 million persons would have been considered farm population, not 15.6 million.

Says Farms To Automate, Too

Although his headquarters are at Tuskegee Institute, Bradford Wednesday travels throughout the state conducting a bright picture for farmers, but was not so optimistic about the future of farm laborers.

Joseph Bradford, an agent for the cooperative extension service in Alabama, said farmers—especially those on large farms—could make a good living if they use modern methods. "The future is bright for them," he stated.

However, on the question of farm labor, Bradford said that machines were rapidly taking over jobs formerly done by men.

Bradford asserted his job is to help prepare them "to fit into any real life situation," not just to be farmers.

Bradford currently is on leave from his post to complete work on a Ph.D. degree in agricultural journalism at the University of Wisconsin. His duties with the extension service involve putting out a monthly newspaper and a weekly radio program. Both concentrate on farm families, farm activities and related matter. They are designed to be educational, he said.

In Special Message To Congress

Kennedy Requests Farmers Be Allowed To Form Own Program

The Talladega Daily News
Talladega, Ala.
Thurs. 3-16-61
**Surplus Food Would Go To Needy Here And Abroad;
No Estimate Of New Costs**

By OVID A. MARTIN
Associated Press Farm Writer perous.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy today asked Congress to delegate to the secretary of agriculture and to the farmers themselves authority to draw up and put into effect programs to raise farm income. Broadened use of food supplies for the needy, he said, would help solve the pressing problems of low farm incomes and the government purchase and storage of surpluses, which now total about \$9.5 billion.

Congress itself would retain only the power to veto a program it did not like. The idea of letting farmers themselves draft their programs was proposed in several farm bills introduced in the last Congress.

Kennedy made this proposal to shift the farm program-making process from the lawmakers to farmers and the secretary in a special farm message to Congress. He said he was deeply concerned that present farm programs are "drifting into a chaotic state."

The President also outlined plans to greatly expand distribution of food to the needy at home and abroad.

No cost estimate was given for the over-all provisions of the complex proposals.

Kennedy said effective action to bolster the farm economy is essential if the nation itself is not to be threatened.

Painting a picture of low incomes and dwindling rural buying power, the President said it is "deeply in the interest of all

centive payments, government purchases of surpluses and diversion of them into by-product or other uses, and export subsidies.

The purpose of the individual commodity programs would be to balance production with demand so that there would be little or no surpluses to depress prices or require use of government supports.

A perfect program would make production come out exactly even with demand. The resulting prices would be expected to give farmers what Kennedy has called a parity of income with others, taking labor, capital and management input into consideration.

In such a case, there would be no government expenditures on price supports, production payments or the like. However, to the extent production did exceed markets, there would be government acquisition of excess supplies under price supports or purchase arrangements.

Kennedy said this approach would save money for taxpayers because of the potential elimination of the costly surpluses. However, his proposal for broadened use of farm products in domestic and overseas relief and food for peace programs would increase outlays. He did not say how much the increased food distribution programs would cost.

Farmers would be authorized to use a wide-ranging kit of tools in the proposed programs. The tools would include marketing quotas—based on bushels, tons or other units of production, government-financed price supports, deficiency payments, in-

Farm income in South hits all-time high

The B'ham News
B'ham, Ala.
Wed. 3-15-61
Southern farm cash income reached an all-time high of \$10,309,576,000 in 1960.

Figures just released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimated total farm income from all sources, in the 16 Southern States, at \$13½ billion, reports O. C. Demares, research department manager of The Progressive Farmer.

This represents an average income per farm of 6264 from farm sources, 64 per cent greater than the \$3816 average at the time of the 1954 census. Average income per farm from all sources for the year is estimated at \$7900.

FARMS IN THE South now average 217 acres in size compared to 167 acres in 1954, an increase of 30 per cent.

Average value of farm land and buildings has jumped 76 per cent to \$22,426 during the five-year census period, and there has been a sharp decline in the number of low-income and tenant farms across the South during this period.

Census data also reflects a substantial growth in livestock and poultry farming and in farm mechanization. Farmers of the South are now spending \$1½ billion annually for livestock and poultry feed, up 28 per cent during the five-year period, and close to a half-billion dollars for motor fuel, an increase of 16 per cent over 1954.

PRESIDENT WANTS FARMERS TO OFFER PRODUCTION PLANS

New York Times
New York, N.Y.
Fri. 3-17-61
He Would Let Growers Draft Programs Subject to Veto by House or Senate

MORE INCOME FORECAST

Congress Message Also Asks Better Food Distribution and Increased Exports

General
Text of Kennedy farm message is printed on Page 14.

By TOM WICKER

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, March 16—President Kennedy proposed today that farm production and marketing programs be developed by farmers themselves and by the Agriculture Department, rather than by Congress.

The President outlined a plan under which Congress would exercise something like a veto power but would not initiate programs for wheat, cotton, corn or other commodities.

Mr. Kennedy proposed this procedure, and other steps to improve farm economic conditions, in a message to Congress, as had been forecast in informed quarters yesterday.

Stiff resistance is expected from some members of the legislative branch. Many of them believe they already have relinquished too much power to the executive. They will be reluctant to give up more, particularly in the politically sensitive farm area.

Similar Proposals Beaten

Mr. Kennedy's program, if adopted, would represent one of

the biggest departures from past practices that he has yet recommended. Similar proposals have met with little support in Congress in other years.

In the Kennedy plan programs would be developed for each commodity by a farmer committee, "in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture." They would then be voted on by the growers affected, with a two-thirds majority necessary for approval.

If such approval were obtained for a given plan, Congress would have sixty days in which to consider it. If either the Senate or House rejected the plan within that period, it could not go into effect. This, in effect, would be a Congressional vote.

Mr. Kennedy also urged that a wider variety of "tools" be authorized for farm program management, and that control

programs be authorized for more commodities—but only with the consent of the farmers concerned.

These recommendations were in line with proposals advanced by Mr. Kennedy during his campaign for the Presidency. He said they were designed to increase farm income to levels equivalent to that of city dwellers, and to achieve "proper channeling of our abundance into more effective and expanded uses."

Included were proposals for expanded food distribution to needy persons in this country, and for a five-year extension of authority for "Food-for-Peace" sales abroad.

He also called for amendments to farm law to enable the use of a wide range of devices in "supply-adjustment" programs. These would include direct or compensatory payments and export payments "as circumstances require." The direct payments, a long-time Democratic proposal, would permit Federal money to be paid farmers for the difference between a stated support price and what their products bring in the open commodity market.

Not Without Precedent

The Kennedy program is not without precedent. The Reorganization Act establishes procedures much like those suggested for farm programs. That is, it permits the President to

promulgate a Government reorganization proposal, which goes into effect unless either House rejects it within a stated period.

In the original Reciprocal Trade Act, Congress relinquished the tariff-making power to the Executive Branch, with some safeguards for itself.

In 1959, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota, proposed a plan similar to that Mr. Kennedy announced today. Last year, Representative W. R. Poage, Democrat of Texas, offered a similar bill, which was rejected in the House. It contained many additional features.

If Congress accepted the Kennedy proposal, it might take much of the "log-rolling" out of farms legislation. That is, representatives from, say, the wheat areas would not have to make concessions to the cotton states, and vice versa, in developing programs.

Instead, wheat growers would develop their own program, together with the Agriculture Department, vote upon it and submit it to Congress. Cotton farmers would do the same, as would corn, tobacco and other growers—including those producing commodities not now controlled, if they so desired.

The administration reportedly believes better farm programs would be developed with

such producer assistance and advice. In addition, it is hoped that by this method Government control could be reduced to a sort of over-all supervision.

Producers of some commodities vote in national referendums under existing farm law. However, these referendums cover a Federal support price in return for certain production controls. The referendums do not involve a whole program developed by farmers themselves.

For example, wheat farmers cast ballots each year on whether they wish to retain a specified support price coupled with curbs on acreage or accept a much lower and, in effect, meaningless support price. Wheat is currently supported at \$1.83 a bushel. If wheat farmers rejected the control program, the price prop would be about \$1.

Even if the Kennedy plan were adopted, Congress would still have the power to write farm legislation. For instance, if Congressmen believed a cotton program to be necessary but cotton growers did not initiate one, there would be

nothing to prevent Congress from doing it.

Legislation on the Kennedy proposals will go to Congress soon. If it is accepted soon enough, wheat producers might participate in writing a control program for 1962.

Wheat offers one of the biggest problems in agriculture. Together with the feed grains, it accounts for \$7,800,000,000 of the \$9,400,000,000 Government stock of surplus farm commodities.

The Administration is understood to have separate wheat legislation in the drafting stage for use if Congress does not act in time to permit growers to write their own program.

President Lists Factors

In his message, Mr. Kennedy cited these factors as contributing most to the farm problem:

¶The inability of millions of separate producers to control their production or prices.

¶The vastly increased yields resulting from technological advances.

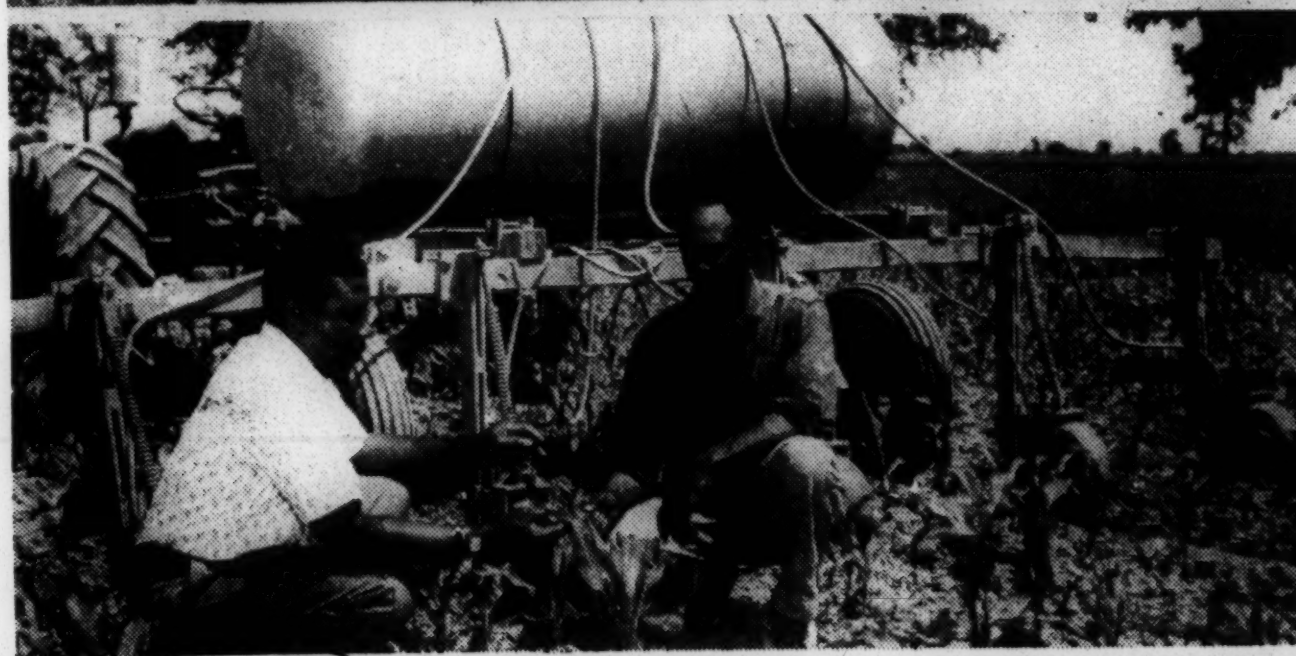
¶Faulty commodity distribution.

¶The "steady" rise in the cost of what farmers have to buy.

Mr. Kennedy outlined several goals. Farm abundance, he said, "can be forged into both a significant instrument of foreign policy and a weapon against domestic hardship and hunger."

The farmer who produces this abundance, he asserted, should have "a parity in income and equality in opportunity with urban families."

At the same time, the President said, the taxpayer cost of farm programs should be reduced, and "no farm program should exploit the consumer."



BEST FARMERS FOR 1960—Tommie Bibbs, top right, of Winona, Miss., and J. W. Rencher, bottom right, of Oran, Mo., were recently acclaimed in Memphis, Tenn., as the best farmers of 1960 in Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee. Mr. Bibbs is discussing pasture improvement for the dairy herd on his \$70,000 farm

State Negro Prize Winner Owner Of \$70,000.00 Cotton And Dairy Farm

The owner of a \$70,000 Mississippi cotton and dairy farm who borrowed the down-payment for his first piece of land, and a 35-year-old Missouri cash renter just in from 17 years of sharecropping,

have been selected as the best farmers of four States for 1960. These two outstanding Negro farmers are Tommie Bibbs of Winona, Miss., and J. W. Rencher of Oran, Mo. They and their fami-

lies won the title of sweepstakes winners over 20,000 competitors in Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee. The awards of \$250 to the Bibbs family for the ownership division, and \$125 to the Renchers of the tenant division were presented recently during the "Plant to Prosper" rally at the Booker T. Washington high school in Memphis,

Tenn. Mr. and Mrs. Bibbs married and started farming on their own 31 years ago. They borrowed the money to make the down-payment on a hilly, run-down 160-acre farm that kept them up against it trying to make ends meet for 15 years. Finally in 1945 they sold this

farm for \$5 an acre, and paid down on the 253 acres they now own. "At first things didn't look much better," says Mr. Bibbs. The land was in poor condition and flooded every time it rained. The first year they made only nine bales of cotton, which hardly brought enough to meet the note, because it rained a lot and grass choked out their crop. But they had learned two lessons: (1) not to count on cotton alone, and (2) that rain sure makes grass grow. Their record of achievement in 1960 was based on those 2 lessons, plus the adoption of sound soil and water conservation practices. While the Bibbs raised 45 bales of cotton, they also produced 3,500 bushels of corn, 85 bushels of truck crops, and 22,000 gallons of Grade A milk. They have been in dairying since 1946, taking advantage of rain and grass to develop good pastures. "We have pastures year-round," Mr. Bibbs points out, "and we raise enough grain and silage to cut our feed bill away down. Twenty-one Grade A dairy farmers have failed in this area in recent years because they did not raise enough feed for their cattle, says Mississippi Extension Leader W. E. Ammons. Mr. and Mrs. Bibbs have been offered \$50,000 for their farm, not including their 70 Jerseys which are worth \$20,000. They have three sons: Purvis who took auto mechanics at Mississippi Vocational College and is now working in Greenwood, Miss.; Charles who is studying at Jackson College to be a teacher; and James who helps with the chores after his high school classes. In addition to the help they have received from SCS technicians assigned to their Soil Conservation District, they regularly get help in farm and home management from their vocational agriculture teacher, Dewey Townsend, and their home demonstration agent, Mrs. Thelma Carson. Mr. and Mrs. Rencher sharecropped 17 years before they became cash renters in 1959. Now they have a tractor and are renting 80 acres. It is their dream to become owners within a few years. "Not many farmers in Missouri apply the science of modern agriculture more than does Mr. Rencher," says County Agent William D. Purnell. He plants cover crops, has his soil tested and applies fertilizer according to need, fights insects, and has a variety of farm enterprises in addition to cotton. Among these are cantaloups and Landrace hogs for market, and poultry and a sizable garden for his family of 10. As a sideline, Mr. Rencher keeps tractors and mechanical cotton pickers in repair for miles around, and serves as mechanic at the gin. The extra money from his part-time jobs, and the money saved by growing most of their food, are giving Mr. and Mrs. Rencher assurance that their dream of having a farm of their own will be realized, states Mr. Purnell.

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GENERAL

Farmers Are Burdened by Same Old Troubles

By WILLIAM M. BLAIR

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON—The annual official summary of crop production in the United States tells a part, though not all, of the pace and drive of agriculture in the first year of the Nineteen Sixties.

"Crop production in 1960 was a record-breaker," said the annual summary. Total production, geared to an ever-rising efficiency in management, science and technology, climbed 3 per cent, above the previous peak of 1958. The production came from about the same number of acres as were harvested in 1958, but nearly 1 per cent fewer acres than in 1959.

Another part of the story is the problem of farm income and continued rising costs, the ingredients of the squeeze haunting farmers in an agriculture still moving forward. Still another phase of the story is the need of political leaders to find a way to gear production to consumption, and to avoid the continued build-up of surplus food and fiber stocks, and the heavy outlays of Federal subsidies and other farm payments, which have caused urban complaints.

It may be safely reported that no solutions are in sight. Despite campaign promises and proposals for easing the upheavals in agriculture, Washington farm circles expect President-elect John F. Kennedy to move slowly in this field. The fact that there will be a Democrat in the White House and a Democratic majority in Congress does not assure quick agreement on farm policy.

The last time such a situation existed, Congress and the then Secretary of Agriculture, Charles F. Brannan, were in substantial disagreement. Some observers date the beginning of the break-up in the once-powerful Congressional farm bloc from the bitter political fight that Mr. Brannan precipitated with his proposals for direct payments and other aids to farmers.

The division in the farm bloc

Rising Costs and Surpluses Present Problems for New Administration

gave the departing Secretary, Ezra Taft Benson, an opening that he exploited to win some loosening of controls. Congress now is not prepared to return to rigid controls. The fact of it is that urban representatives hold the balance of power and have turned aside some of the production control and farm aid proposals now advocated by Mr. Kennedy. Little in the way of concrete farm legislation is expected in 1961. The period is seen as one of movement toward position rather than a full plunge by the Kennedy Administration into a Congressional fight spearheaded by his Secretary of Agriculture, Orville L. Freeman, the three-time Governor of Minnesota. Mr. Freeman's liberal farm position is allied with that of the National Farmers Union of which Mr. Brennan is now general counsel. However, Mr. Freeman is wise in the ways of politics and has promised to take over with an open mind.

Farm income, in final figures, is expected to run about the same as in 1959, between \$11,000,000,000 and \$12,000,000,000, the same as it has been since 1955 after having fallen sharply from the peaks of the Korean War period. Although continued rising farm marketings increased gross farm income to another peak last year, the steady increase in production expenses prevented a significant gain in net income.

At the same time, the total value of farm capital moved to another peak last year. This reflected the large investment in machinery and equipment and the rise in land values. However, the rise slowed considerably in the last year and some experts believe a leveling-off has taken place during a breather period. The leveling-off in land values during 1960 was especially marked.

While the transitions under way in agriculture that account for the slide in income and the increase in costs are debated in

the political arena, the production side of farming, with all its headaches in surpluses, continues to present a brilliant picture.

Out in Workers

Total farm production in the first year of the Nineteen Sixties is calculated at about 29 per cent above the 1947-49 average. This abundance was produced and achieved by 30 per cent fewer farm workers and on 5 per cent fewer acres, resulting in another record on a per capita basis unmatched in industrial production.

The 1960 crop season was off to a shaky start east of the Rocky Mountains, but once again, as in 1958, the harvest-time was blessed with unusually favorable weather, bringing the bountiful yield. Per acre yields nearly matched the 1958 blue-ribbon year. The Department of Agriculture's composite yield per-acre index, which covers twenty-eight leading crops, was 6 per cent above 1959, and only slightly below 1958.

Corn, rice, sorghum grain, tobacco, peanuts, hay and a few other crops reached record yields per acre. Wheat, oats, barley, soybeans and a few others had the second highest yields of record. The grains in this group include the major ones of American agriculture. They account for about 90 per cent of the total acres harvested in 1960.

Food grain output of 44,600,000 tons was one-fifth above 1959, although 5 per cent below 1958. Winter wheat, the major food grain and the country's major surplus problem, yielded 1,117,131,000 bushels, the second largest volume of record. The harvested acres were below average, but the yield per acre of 27.5 bushels was only one bushel short of the 1958 record. The 27.5 bushels compared with the 20.2 bushel average of 1949-58.

Feed Grain Is Up

A record volume of corn and sorghum grain and a large barley crop pushed total feed grain tonnage up 3 per cent over the previous peak. Corn gave what the Agriculture Department described as an "unprecedented" yield per acre, fifty-three bushels against the 1949-58 average of 41.6. These figures offer testimony to the modern practices in farming from management to fertilizers and methods. Sorghum grains, the harvested acres of which have been grow-

ing steadily in Midwestern states, also turned in a record performance with yields nearly four bushels above previous records.

Livestock, which accounts for a third of farm income, continued to boom as numbers rose to new peaks but with prices tending to be lower, which benefits city dwellers. The price received by farmers for beef cattle for 1960 probably will be about \$2 per 100 pounds, lower than the previous average about \$2 per 100 pounds. The increased marketings appear likely to result in lower average prices in the year ahead. The total output of red meats in 1960 appears to be 9 per cent larger than last year. Pork is about 4 per cent lower.

Total meat supplies have been increasing for the last two years, but consumption per person still is below the record rate of 166.7 pounds set for 1956. However, beef consumption in 1961 is expected to top the 85.4 pounds set in 1956 because of somewhat lower prices.

Total Outlook Murky

This picture of American farm production promises to be lustrous for several years, but the total outlook is murky as the Government investment in price-supported commodities pushed past the \$9,000,000,000 mark. This is the cause of the urban protests heard so loudly in the halls of Congress. And no end is in sight for this build-up of surplus products, despite continued Government and private efforts to find and build new markets abroad.

The value of United States farm products shipped abroad in 1960 reached an estimated total of \$4,600,000,000, 18 per cent above 1959 and slightly above the previous peak of \$4,500,000,000 in 1957. Of the farm exports, \$3,200,000,000 moved commercially for dollars and \$1,300,000,000 under Government-financed programs.

Farm Prices Stable In '61; Units Decline

WASHINGTON, D. C. — With before heavy demands may little or no change fore-drive prices up somewhat. seen in farm prices and income Also, he says farmers can for 1961, small farmers whose save by purchasing items co-numbers are thinning are ad-operatively, by sharing equip-vised by A. S. Bacon, agricul-ment, and by raising most of tural program assistant of the their own food and livestock Federal Extension Service, to feed.

keep a close check on operating In addition, Bacon emphasizes costs and a keen lookout for the importance of farmers keep-part-time nonfarm employment ing abreast of improved farm-ing methods by taking full ad-

"Few small farmers," says vantage of the agricultural ex-Bacon. "have enough work to tension program in their State do to keep busy and earn a and country. Serving farmers good living." Those who have in the Southern States are some slack periods in their opera-900 county farm and home tions can improve their income demonstration agents. position, he suggests, by taking part-time off-farm work.

He points out that a third of the net income of all farmers during each of the past two years came from nonfarm source. (21-22) -61

MAKING IT PAY
Other ways of increasing earnings, says the Extension official. are to acquire additional acres to increase the size of the farm to a family-size unit, or adopt farming methods designed to cut operating expenses.

Regarding the acquisition of additional land. Bacon explains that some extra acres may have become available as a result of the sharp decline in the number of farm operators, especially among tenants.

Since 1954, he says, the number of farmers has declined from 4,800,000 to an estimated 3,700,000. Among Negro farmers, indications are that the drop is even more marked. States for which data are available show the following preliminary figures: Georgia down from 39,210 to 20,172; and Virginia from 24,360 to 15,708.

CUTTING COSTS

As for cutting operating costs, which should be the goal of every farmer, the extension official recommends that farmers plan well in advance so as to take advantage of savings on the purchase of seed, fertilizer, insecticides, and equipment by making their purchases early

Bacon, who was born and reared on a farm near Quitman, Ga., has been a professional agricultural worker for more than 20 years. Before coming to Washington in 1955, he had served as a vocational agricultural teacher, assistant county supervisor for Farmers Home Administration, county agent, and state supervisor of Negro extension work in Georgia.

He holds degrees from Savannah State college and the University of Minnesota.

Cotton Still King, Though Losing Out

P1 Section C
The Augusta Journal and Constitution
June 9-24-61
Georgia Crop Is Worth \$90 Million Annually

By FRANK WELLS

Georgia's cotton is a doddering old monarch, but his economic word is still law to thousands of Georgia farmers.

The monarch's kingdom has shrunk by half in the past 10 years and bids fair to shrink even further year by year.

However, the crop is still worth about \$90 million annually to Georgia's economy and is still the biggest cash crop for thousands of Georgians.

It's not just the farmer who is dependent on the crop," said Harold Brown, county agent of Colquitt County—Georgia's richest agricultural county.

"The ginners depend on the crop. So do the cotton oil mills. So do the equipment and fertilizer dealers to some extent. Then there are the warehouses and the buyers. And of course, there are hundreds of cotton mills in the state that have to get their cotton from somewhere."

AUTOMATION plays a bigger and bigger role in the planting, cultivating and harvesting of the crop—and old Eli Whitney would be hard put to recognize the giant machines into which his simple gin has grown.

This year's crop will pick out at about 500,000 bales—each weighing 500 pounds and each pound worth about 33 cents. For every 500 pounds of lint, there is about 750 pounds of seed—and this part of the crop will be worth about \$7,500,000. Seed and lint together were worth \$88,288,000 last year and should be about that value this year.

This is a big drop from 1951's crop value of \$204,574,000 for

lint and seed—which was more than one-fourth the value of all of Georgia's gross farm income that year. This year cotton will bring in about one-tenth of the gross farm income.

BUT LOOK at one county—Colquitt. Cotton there last year was worth \$3,000,000. Corn, livestock and tobacco all topped cotton, but this highest producing agricultural county needed the lint crop to hold its place at Georgia's top.

What about this year's crop? "Well, this has been the damndest year for cotton in a long time," said Dillard Harris of Doerun. "This will be the first year in 10 that I won't make a bale to the acre, and you've got to do that to make money."

Mr. Harris has 230 acres in cotton, all of it handled from the start by machines.

As he talked, three big cotton pickers slowly rolled down the cotton rows, their whirling spindles snatching the cotton out of the bolls and a powerful blast of air pouring the cotton into a big wiremesh hopper.

THE PICKERS are mounted on ordinary two-row tractors—in this case John Deeres—which run in reverse under the big hampers.

"The mechanical picker gives me a better sample than hand picking," Mr. Harris said. "And

each one of them can pick 11 acres a day—it doesn't make any difference how much cotton there is on the acre."

Later, in another field, Edward Wade, 16, walked slowly down a cotton row, dragging his long sack behind him. "I can pick about 500 pounds of cotton in a day," he said.

Going rate for hand picking is about \$3 per hundred. Even with the best pickers, this will cost the grower \$35 to \$40 per bale to get his cotton picked by hand. Figuring a mechanical picker working a bale-to-the-acre crop, it is worth about \$400 per day at hand picking rates.

THE BIG MACHINES cost—averaging more than \$10,000 for tractor and picker. But as is true with nearly every machine which does away with hand labor, it is more economical to operate no matter what the cost.

Mr. Harris explained that he was going to lose money this year.

"We had to poison 10 times and then a dry spell caught us at just the wrong time," he said. "The year started off bad, with cold ground that caused a lot of re-planting."

County Agent Brown said the same picture was true for the whole county. "You've got to make a bale an acre to more than break even," he said. "Last year we made about four-fifths bale to the acre on the county's 25,000 acres, but we won't do it this year."

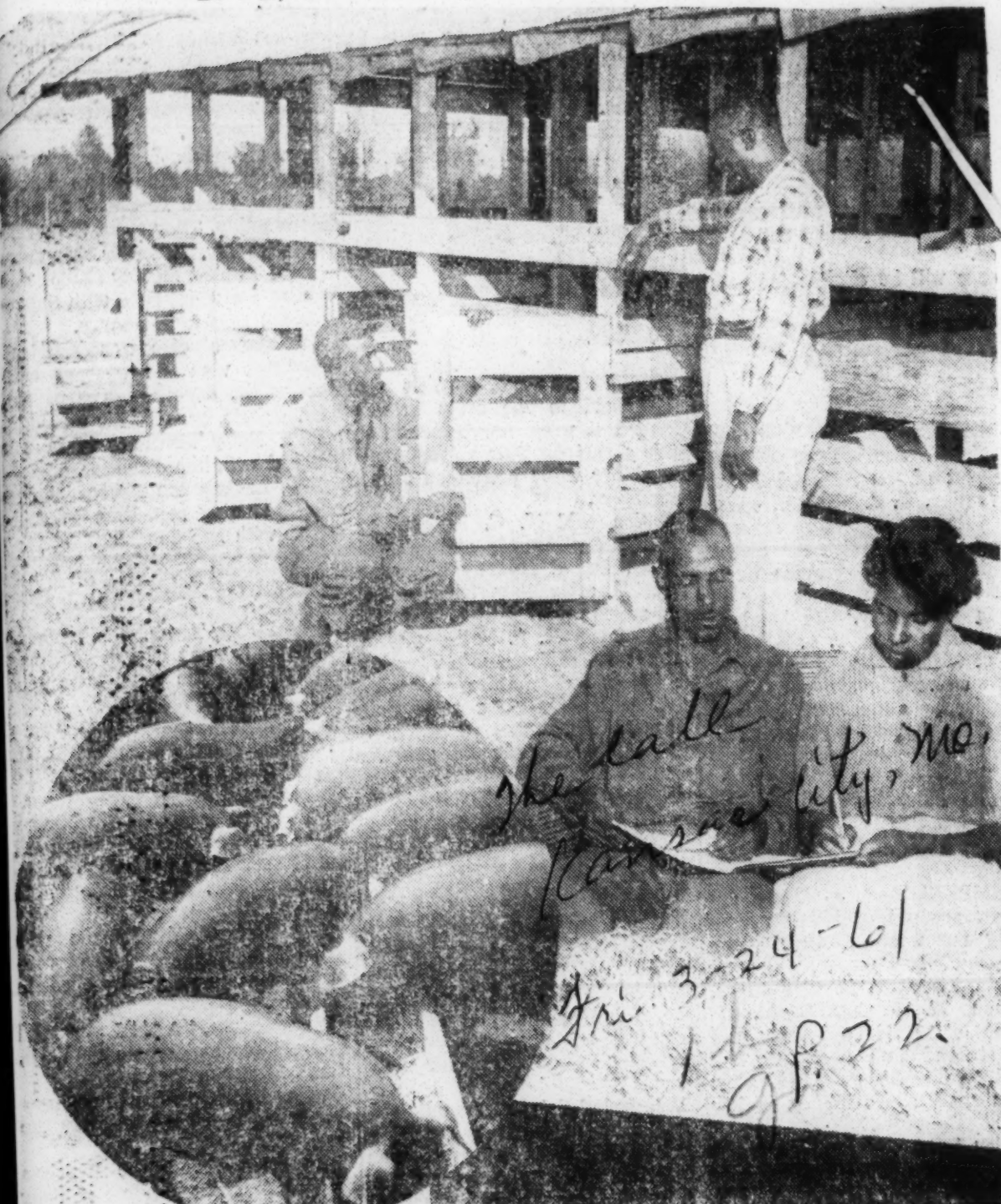
Mr. Brown explained about a "cotton scouting" plan that was used this year and will be used again next year. His "scouts" checked cotton crops all over the county periodically and advised planters whether they needed to poison.

"Cotton has an economic place if we can just get the yield up," Mr. Brown explained.

"And the boll weevils and worms sure keep the yield down."

FROM NEAR FAILURE TO SUCCESS.—Six years ago Mr. and Mrs. Plezy Nelson of Leslie, Ga., were about to fail as farmers. Then they obtained a loan from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to buy more land, some fertilizer and other production items. Success soon followed. Farmers Home has just received an additional

\$50 million to extend credit to more hard pressed farmers this year. Top: Mr. Nelson and Farmers Home State Loan Specialist Josephus Johnson discuss the farmer's new hog farrowing house for his pig crops of 150 head a year. Bottom: part of pig crop and the Nelsons going over their farm records.—USDA photo



1b 1961

GEORGIA

\$10 a Month to \$15,000 a Year

HARD WORK AND FAITH PAY

SYLVANIA—James P. Solomon has come from a \$10-a-month farm hand to a \$15,000-a-year farm owner during a 23-year period on his Screven County farm.

Journal and Constitution
The Negro farmer has made these strides through careful planning, improved farming methods, sound use of credit, hard work and high goals, says Augustus Hill, state supervisor of Agricultural Extension work with Negro farmers.

Once penniless sharecroppers, who bought their first mule on credit through the Farmers Home Administration, the Solomons now own a 377-acre mechanized farm with a mechanical cotton picker, a corn picker, and nearly \$20,000 worth of other modern equipment including three tractors.

And in their improved pastures are 150 high quality hogs and 30 head of beef cattle. About 160 acres of corn, peanuts, soybeans, and watermelons round out the enterprises of this family of 12.

Sum 19-19-61
"BUT THINGS were far different when we married in 1938," Mr. Solomon recalls. "Then I couldn't even find a farm to sharecrop. So I moved in with my wife's folks and took a job on a nearby cotton plantation as a \$10-a-month hand."

Atlanta Ga.
The next two years, they sharecropped, and then Farmers Home approved their application for a loan to buy a mule. But bad weather cut their crop and left them owing for the mule.

Determined to repay the agency, the farmer went to Augusta, 60 miles away, and worked in a pipe factory to pay the debt. By cotton-planting time, he was back in Sylvania ready to try to make another crop.

IMPRESSED by his record, Farmers Home made him a loan to buy an additional mule, 100 baby chicks, and a milk cow. And the Solomons have been moving forward since, the supervisor points out.



JAMES SOLOMON (LEFT) AND HIS SON JAMES EXAMINE COTTON
Tell USDA Official Machine Helped Develop \$15,000 Income

In 1945 the family started buying 157 acres through the FHA. Since that time, they have added 220 acres more and are now renting an additional 130 acres.

Cotton is the Solomons' main crop. They get from a bale to a bale and a half per acre by having their soil tested and then applying fertilizer according to recommendation.

They also have their seed tested for germination; and they have one of the best sprayers in the county for killing boll weevils.

Some years they produce more than 100 bales of cotton, nearly 16,000 bushels of corn and market more than 300 hogs. Entering the county five-acre corn contest a few years ago, they got a yield of 115 bushels per acre to walk off with the prize.

With part of their corn acreage in the feed grain program, the Solomons are using their mechanical corn picker to harvest neighbors' corn and also use their

cotton harvester to pick about six bales of cotton a day for custom hiring.

"We've had a lot of help all the way," says the Negro farmer. "They have helped us to plan and operate our farm on a sound basis."

Greenville County

Home Demonstration, *Junior and Adult* 4-H Groups In Program

EMPORIA, Va.—Highlights of the annual 4-H and home demonstration achievement program held recently at Greenville County Training School included areas of clothing care, selection, and styling, food and nutrition, education, and recreation.

County-wide 4-H activities participated in by Greenville county 4-Hers were related by Elva Gray, while Frank Harris gave a report on his 4-H Pig Project.

Norfolk, Va.
WINNERS IN the 4-H district contests presented team demonstrations as follows: junior team demonstration, "Say It, With Sandwiches" Marva Jo Richardson, Hazel Butts, Thelma Atkins, and Eleanor Carpenter; senior team demonstration, "Milk As You Like It," Joan Harris, Shirley Cain, Susie Carpenter, and Cathaleen Gilliam. ing projects, and home demonstration club members.

A SUMMARY of adult home demonstration work was presented in a panel discussion by the following home demonstration leaders: Misses V. D. Parker, Kitty Daughtry; Mesdames Mary Ratliff, Gloria Peebles, Mary Jones, G. P. Waller, Luvenia Carpenter, Annie Blunt and Annie Avent.

Oct. 11-18-61
Adult leaders receiving outstanding recognition were Mrs. Mary Banks of Diamond Grove and Mrs. Dorothy Butts of Merry Oaks Community. Powell Home Demonstration Club received the attendance banner. Donald White, vice-president of the 4-H County Council, presided and approxi-

A dress revue, "From Bags To Riches," featured cotton

garments fashioned by 37 future 4-H'ers, enrollees of members in one of the cloth-mately 150 persons were present.

THE LOCAL home agent is Miss A. L. Thomas; local farm agent, G. D. Williams; and extension secretary, Mrs. Jean Clanton.

92,000 BROILERS A YEAR—Mrs. James R. Carter, right, supplements the family's income by raising broilers. Last year she sold 92,000 birds. Left to right: Lawrence C. Johnson, county agent; Miss Ollie Mae Raybon, home agent; Mr. Carter, and Mrs. Carter. (USDA Photo)

Farm Agent *Charles E. Toney* Retires After 24 Yr. Service

L. A. Toney, a State leader of the Agricultural Extension Service of West Virginia, has retired after 24 years of service.

A native of Ohio, Toney received his education at Ohio State university, earning both his B. S. and M. S. degrees there.

He began his career as a high school principal in 1923, and was promoted to assistant superintendent of schools in Fayette County in 1934. Three years later, he became State leader of Extension Service working mainly with Negro farm families.

Under Toney's leadership, the Negro Extension Personnel in the state increased from two

to 13. He had his headquarters in Raleigh.



1b 1961

Integration Study Set

The Florida Times Union

For Farm Extension

P. 15

WASHINGTON, March 20 (UPI)

Agriculture Secretary Orville E. Freeman has ordered his department to look into the possibility of wiping out segregation in the federal-state Farm Extension Service program - 30-61

The department also is expected to study the policies of the Forest Service, which operates public recreational areas throughout the country, including the South.

The extension service sponsors classes in farm production, marketing and home management on a segregated basis in many Southern areas. Any move to upset the practice would run into legal obstacles and probably would be strongly opposed by Southern congressmen.

Federal extension service officials said they have no racial breakdown of county farm and home demonstration agents. But about half of the 14,500 agents are in the 16 Southern and Southwestern states which have separate white and Negro land grant agricultural colleges.

In some states a Negro extension leader, subordinate to the white state extension director, controls a staff of Negro county agents who serve only Negroes. But patterns vary from state to state and even from county to county.

The federal government exercises complete control only over the 250-man federal extension service, which operates as a national supervisory and technical aid service for the state extension services.

The state services, whose 14,500 county farm and home demonstration agents serve millions of rural adults and help run 4-H clubs for young people, work in partnership with the federal service.

About \$65 million in federal funds is given to the state services annually to help pay county agents' salaries and other costs. This represents about 38 per cent of the state and local cost of the program. Another 38 per cent comes from state legislatures with 24 per cent provided by county and local sources.

Any effort to use the federal contribution to force desegregation in the program would raise a

complicated legal problem.

The grants are made under a law which specifically gives the money to the states and sets up a specific distribution formula, based partly on farm population. The law provides for state administration of the funds, allowing only enough federal supervision to make sure that the money is being spent for the educational purposes intended by Congress.

Officials said the law makes no reference to racial segregation. In the past, Agriculture Department attorneys have held that the extension law could not put any strings on the grants beyond those spelled out by Congress.

EXTENSION SERVICE FIRST SOUTHERNER

York Appointed Extension Head

Appointment of Dr. E. T. York as administrator of the Federal Extension Service was announced Friday by Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman.

Meanwhile, Dr. Freeman's son, Dr. E. T. York, was appointed acting director of the Extension Service to serve during Dr. York's absence. Dr. Robertson has been associate director since July 1, 1959.

Auburn University Friday granted Dr. York a leave of absence to accept the position.

Although just officially announced, Dr. York's appointment had been indicated by department officials earlier.

"Dr. York, I am advised, is the first Southerner and the youngest man ever to be named USDA Extension administrator," Auburn President Dr. Ralph B. Draughon said Friday.

HONORED BY CHOICE

"Auburn is honored by his selection, and pleased to make his services available to the nation.

"Dr. Robertson is well qualified to carry on the work in Alabama, and I know he will do an excellent job."

Dr. Robertson holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in agriculture from the University of Tennessee and a doctor's degree from Harvard, where his grade average was the highest in the agricultural group of about 25.

Before coming to Auburn, Dr. Robertson served as assistant county agent in Tennessee, five years as an agricultural economist with TVA and for three and one-half years as professor of agricultural economics at Pennsylvania State University.

Since coming to Auburn in 1959 he has been in charge of program planning and coordination.

Dr. York became director of the Extension Service at Auburn May 1, 1959. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from Auburn Uni-

versity and a doctor's degree from Cornell.

Since coming to Auburn in 1959 Dr. York launched an agricultural program designed to double the income of Alabama farmers. Dr. York's salary as federal administrator will be \$18,500 a year. The Washington office has some 100 employees.

This year's appropriation to the Federal Extension Service is \$56.7 million. Most of these funds go to the states to help in their programs.

Dr. York was granted a year's leave of absence. This is all Auburn grants at any one time. However, it will be renewed.



DR. F. E. ROBERTSON
Acting Director



DR. E. T. YORK
Named To Post

Former home agent files \$50,000 suit

PITTSBORO, N.C. (ANP)

A pioneer in home demonstration activities here has filed a \$50,000 suit against the head of colored state extension agents in North Carolina.

Mrs. Mildred B. Payton, a former home demonstration agent who is now a law student at North Carolina College in Durham, is bringing action against N. E. Jones of Raleigh, as the result of a letter which claimed she was inefficient in her job.

MRS. PAYTON resigned in Nov., 1958, to enter college. She said her resignation was accepted but that sometime after this she received a letter from the U.S. Department of Agriculture separating her from its extension service on grounds of inefficiency.

She said the USDA reversed itself, but that the letter, which remains part of her permanent personnel file, has done her material harm. She asks \$25,000 actual and \$25,000 punitive damages.

For many years, Mrs. Payton was demonstration agent in the Pittsboro area. She was among the pioneers who established a headquarters at Pittsboro for farm and home and other similar activities and was a leader in planning for the annual well-attended "fairs" in the area.

First Clerk For Miss Extension Work Retires

Mrs. Hubert, first clerk for Negro Extension work in Mississippi, retired recently after nearly 40 years of service.

Mrs. Hubert began work during World War I as secretary to her husband, M. M. Hubert, who was then supervisor of the State's three Negro Extension workers. She and her husband saw the number of agents increase to nearly 150 in 57 counties before he retired in 1952.

As the clerical staff grew Mrs.

Hubert played an important role in training such workers for offices all over the State. Later she served with the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, and then returned to Extension, helping to staff the Hinds County office which was presented a Superior Service Award last year by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Miss Camilla Weems Honored By Negro Extension Workers

Miss Camilla Weems, retired State Home Demonstration Agent, world traveler and scholar was honored during the GTEA session with an orchid and a check for \$100.00 as a token of appreciation from Negro Extension workers in Georgia.

Miss. Weems addressed Extension Workers assembled in the education building of the Wheat Street Baptist Church. She narrated excerpts from her thesis, "A Study of Home Demonstration Work in Georgia from 1923 to 1955." The study revealed a history of Home Demonstration Work in Georgia with emphasis on organization and program development.

Some of the implications brought out in this study were: (1) Home Demonstration work will continue in Georgia and an even greater progress is expected in the future. (2) Farm families should continue to make progress under the guidance of kind and sympathetic Extension Workers. (3) Extension Workers are raising their level of education in order to render a greater service.

Miss. Weems' concluding remarks to the more than 40 agents present from over the state were, "Work hard to improve the standards of our people."

Miss Ann Postell, Area Supervisor, served as mistress of ceremony, Miss Carrie Powell, Assistant State 4-H Club Agent pinned the orchid. Miss. Willie M. Saxon, Home Demonstration Agent from Bibb County presented the check for \$100.00.

Mrs. Mattie Copeland, Area Supervisor, presented Miss Weems to the group assembled.

Words of appreciation to Miss Weems were expressed by Mr. Au-

gustus Hill, State Agent, Mr. Alexander Hurse, Area Supervisor and other agents.

'Most Segregated' U. S. Agency

'Ag' Service Hit By Desegregation

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Under pressure from President Kennedy, Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman has taken on one of the toughest racially segregated agencies in the Federal government—the Agriculture Extension Service.

Freeman, himself a liberal, has been so conscientious about carrying out his phase of the general desegregation program in government that Paul V. Kepner, present administrator of the service is retiring so as not to be caught in the cross fire.

The touchy subject came up last week when the secretary reviewed Extension Service policies with officials of the bureau.

EFFORTS TO desegregate the service are expected to be made in the near future as part of the in the near future as part of the gram to enforce existing Federal laws forbidding segregation.

The problem in the Extension Service is complicated, however, by the Federal-state-local cooperative nature of the program.

Any effort which Freeman makes will run into opposition in the South as well as in Congress, where Southern senators and representatives control the Agriculture Committees.

THROUGHOUT the South there are both Negro and white county agents, with separate staffs. There are also separate Negro and white state-wide Extension Services centered in state Negro and white universities and colleges in the South.

Founded 47 years ago, the Extension Service has always maintained segregated facilities in the Southern states.

Nearly half of the Extension Service's 14,500 employees are in the South, and about half of the Service's annual Federal budget of \$67 million is spent in the South.

4 Negro 4-H Members Seeking Goals in South



By Wally McNamee, Staff Photographer

Four delegates to the regional 4-H conference here are, from left, Gwendolyn Hayes, 19, Texas; William Clark, 17, Oklahoma; Joyce Harris, 17, Tennessee, and Willie Pate, 19, Louisiana.

To four young delegates to represent states who represent more than 350,000 Negro 4-H club members. Their conference is being held at Howard University here this week, the South is the place where they want to make their homes.

They feel a sense of obligation to live where they were raised and to work for their goals. And they have already demonstrated that they are potential community leaders.

The four are among 128 young people from 17 Southern states who represent more than 350,000 Negro 4-H club members. Their conference is being held at Howard University here this week, the South is the place where they want to make their homes.

entering Texas Southern University this fall and wants to be a lawyer.

Joyce Harris, 18, of Memphis, Tenn., won the state 4-H safety contest by mobilizing local 4-H members to work for home safety. She will attend Tennessee State A. & I. College this fall and wants to be a laboratory technician.

Gwendolyn Hayes, 19, of Jefferson, Tex., set up a wildlife preservation project and stocked a fish pond to win a state-wide contest and a \$1200 scholarship to Prairie View A&M College where she plans to study dress designing.

The only farmer of the group, William Clark, 17, of Okmulgee, Okla., who raised prize-winning livestock and cotton, said he wants to teach agriculture and plans to attend Langston University in Oklahoma.

The conference includes in its program lectures by Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman and Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.).



Atlanta Daily World
4-H'ERS IN EGYPT—A team of four outstanding American 4-H Club youths have been in Egypt nearly two months helping to man the U.S. exhibit at the Cairo International Agricultural Exhibition which closes April 30. In upper photo they are shown outside Cairo taking turns riding an Egyptian's burro. Left to right: An Egyptian farmer; Junius B. Russell, Jr., Warrenton,

N.C.; Thornton Southard, Ryan, Okla.; Larry L. Pressler, Humboldt, S.D.; and Parker R. Blevins, Monticello, Ky. Below, Junius, a sophomore at A. and T. College of North Carolina, demonstrates to an Egyptian farmer and his son the mixing of seed wheat with a fungicide to combat disease. At right is Aziz Fattah, the interpreter.

Freeman Tells 4-H Youths

The Afro-American

How To Help U.S. Abroad

P. 19
Blueprint

Sat. 8-26-61
Diplomacy

Baltimore, Md.
of plenty

director of the Alabama Extension Service; Attorney George E. C. Hayes, former chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of the District of Columbia; and Dr. E. T. York Jr., administrator of the USDA Federal Extension Service.

Secretary Freeman told the delegates that 43 per cent of American farmers gross less than \$2,500 a year. "A farm family can't begin to live on a decent standard with that kind of income," he declared.

He pointed out that through the Rural Areas Development program and other efforts, a massive attack is being launched on rural poverty.

A NEW FEATURE of the conference was the awarding of \$500 scholarships to the two delegates who had achieved the best records in agriculture, Orville L. Free-man, last week, before the 4-H and in high school scholarship.

One award went to Myrtle

Jean Thierry, 17, of Opelousas, La., who made 32 garments for herself and family, 71 articles of needlework for sale to neighbors, and prepared more than 5,000

meals during seven years of 4-H club work. Also she led her high school graduating class of 33 last spring.

The other scholarship was awarded to James Earl Snead Jr., 17, of Tyler, Texas, who sells eggs from a

flock of 50 layers, peaches and plums from trees in his yard, guides a group of junior 4-H'ers, and last year went to Amsterdam, Holland, as a delegate to the YMCA Office of Education; Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, president of A. and T. College; Dr. Fred R. Robertson Jr.,

In addition to the scholarship awards, citation plaques were presented to four persons who have made noteworthy contributions to 4-H club work:—

Dr. A. G. Gaston, Birmingham, Ala., businessman; Mrs. Eva L. Gordon, retired Mississippi educator; Guy Hoffman, Tennessee high school principal; and Miss Camilla Weems, retired assistant state supervisor of home demonstration work in Georgia.

States represented at the 4-H conference were:

Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

WASHINGTON The need for improving American agriculture so that farm families here at home may live at a more satisfactory level and their abundant production be shared more effectively with hungry peoples abroad was emphasized by Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman, last week, before the 14th Regional 4-H Conference.

The secretary spoke in the Department of Agriculture auditorium following a discussion of the legislative process by Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee.

Most of the conference, seven days of sessions, was held at Howard University with 128 outstanding 4-H boys and girls from the 17 States of the Southern region in attendance. They represented 347,000 fellow 4-H'ers.

George L. P. Weaver; Dr. Ambrose Caliver, chief of adult education in the U.S.; Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, president of A. and T. College; Dr. Fred R. Robertson Jr.,

Assistant Secretary of Labor for 4-H'ers, and last year finished high school in June near the top of his class with a 3.8 average.

Two City Schools Start 4-H Work

The Courier-Journal

By SAMUEL R. GUARD



Farm families all over this state will be pleased to learn that the city schools of their metropolis are going to start some 4-H Club work.

The Board of Education of Louisville will have a trial run of 4-H clubs in two city schools come next September. After all there is no reason why our country children should have all the advantages!

Parkland Junior High at 25th and Wilson, where Owen Lee Clifford, a country boy himself from Trimble County, is principal, and Western Junior High at 22d and Main, headed by Foster Sanders, son of a country preacher, have arranged

with the Extension Department of the University of Kentucky to offer two 4-H Club projects for boys and two for girls in the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth grades.

After a while the other City schools in Louisville can take a look, evaluate the benefits and practicability of 4-H clubs in City schools, then let nature take its course in the development of a sound farm-city youth program.

Eventually Louisville may even catch up with Dallas, Portland, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, and that big old New York.

4-H Club Leaders Named

PROFESSOR Ralph Ramsey, U. of K.'s rural sociologist, and Conrad Feltner, field agent for our junior clubs, met with Louisville's school officials and arranged the tryout for next fall.

John H. Heller, our vigorous club leader in the office of County Agent Corley Brown, will supervise the boys' projects, and Janice Crase, assistant home-demonstration agent, the child-care and good-grooming projects for the girls. John is an Oldham County boy who was club leader at Elizabethtown for six years after graduating from the College of Agri-

gratifying to superintendents Sam Noe and Ed Belcher. It appears that a surprising number of the parents and teachers in town were 4-H clubbers back home in the country.

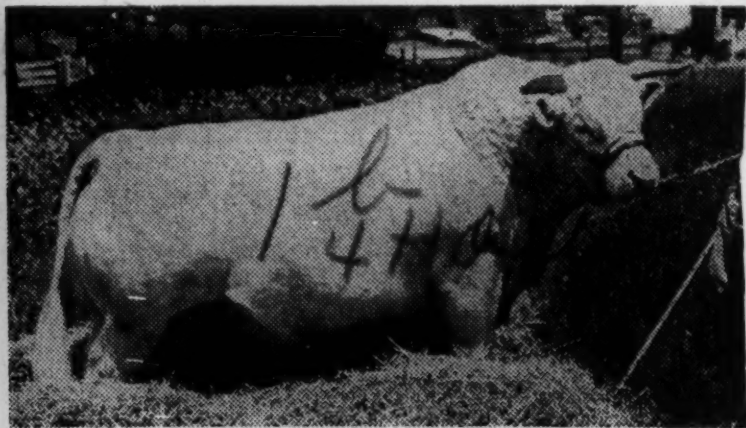
356 Leaders In County

JEFFERSON County outside the Louisville city limits, has 41 thriving and active 4-H clubs. No less than 356 adult club leaders take a personal interest in each of the 2,100 members.

4-H Week Begins Tomorrow

BEGINNING tomorrow, the 13th, and running through Saturday, some 1,200 boys and girls from all over the state will assemble on the university campus at Lexington for Kentucky's 38th annual 4-H Week.

Twenty-two of them, representing 11 West Kentucky counties, will be dropping in after a week at Fontana Village, N. C., where they attended the 4-H Resource Development Conference. Their soil-conservation districts and the Tennessee Valley Authority Test Demonstration Farms in the Purchase and the Pennyryle sent them.



A CHAROLAISE BULL

culture at Lexington. Janice came to town from Summer Shade in Metcalfe County to get her college degree at the University of Louisville.

The boys will start with a science project—a study of life. They will put a setting of eggs in incubators and report in their 4-H record books on the fascinating development of baby chicks.

The regular meetings of these city 4-H clubs will be held in the schoolhouse. There will be an adult leader for each club of five members. Already the sign-up of project leaders is



NEW OFFICERS elected by the 4-H Club Council of North Carolina and installed at the annual Club Week observance held at A and T College, Greensboro, were, left to right: Lumas Vick of

Middlesex, vice president; Helen Y. Cheek of Henderson, president; Alice Barnes of Wilson, historian; Aaron Campbell of Whiteville, treasurer; and Ernestine Sharpe of Elm City, secretary.

Over 2.3 million youths *The Afro-American* celebrating 4-H Week

Baltimore, Md.
WASHINGTON

More than 2,300,000 youths are observing National 4-H Week which continues through Saturday.

2,302,000 club youths
347,400 are colored. They reside mainly in the South, and are enrolled in 6,717 clubs served by 40,000 older youth and adult leaders.

LAST YEAR colored 4-H club young people raised more than 100,000 acres of corn, peanuts, soybeans, cotton and tobacco, 25,000 acres of vegetables, a million head of poultry and 80,000 head of livestock.

Nearly 7,000 carried tractor maintenance as one of their projects last year; others beautified their lawns, improved their homes, made clothing, prepared meals, and conserved food.

INCREASINGLY, 4-H'ers are carrying projects in electricity, including the repair of electric motors and other equipment about the home and farm. In recent years a few 4-H club youths have electrified hand mowers, converting them into power mowers.

Among the first to do so was 18-year-old MacArthur West of Clarksville, Tenn. His mower was demonstrated all over Montgomery County, resulting in a number of other 4-H'ers attaching used electric motors to their old hand mowers.

1b 1961

MISSISSIPPI

Miss. Negro Farmers To Benefit From \$100,000 USDA Flood Control Loan

Jacksonville
A \$100,000 loan for flood, erosion and sedimentation control in the Indian Creek Watershed of Quitman County, Miss., has been approved to Indian Creek Drainage District No. 1, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced last week.

7-22-61
The loan will benefit the white and colored farmers of the watershed area. In the entire county, which is situated 40 miles south of Memphis, Tenn., there are 794 white and 1,258 colored farmers growing crops and raising livestock on 234,000 acres.

Quitman County
The loan, which will be made by the USDA's Farmers Home Administration, is to be used to help finance construction of seven flood-water retarding structures or dams to prevent flooding and to hold back sediment. In addition to the \$100,000 loan, the USDA's Soil Conservation Service will share a major part of the remaining costs. *21*
The cost of the project is estimated at \$543,000.

1b 1961

MISSOURI

Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow Named

The Call
MACON, Mo. — The 1961 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow for Macon high school is Aleetha Marie Jackson.



ALEETHA MARIE JACKSON

Kansas City, Mo.
Having received the highest score in a written examination on homemaking knowledge and attitudes taken by graduating seniors in Macon high, she was selected as the winner.

2340
Marie is now a candidate for the State Homemakers of Tomorrow award which will be announced in March.

8-17
Each school's Homemaker of Tomorrow will receive an award pin having the slogan "Home Is Where The Heart Is" on it.

The \$110,000 homemaking education program by General Mills offers a \$1,500 scholarship to the first ranking girl in the state and \$500.00 scholarship to the state second ranking participant.

Marie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Jackson. She is a member of Bethel AME church, where she is secretary of the Sunday school, president of the Junior choir and pianist of the Junior choir.



New Farmers' Officers Welcomed To Conference

Journal & Guide
Dr. Samuel D. Proctor (center), president of A. and T. College, welcomes officers of the North Carolina Association of New Farmers of America who recently held their annual leadership conference at the Greensboro College.

From left to right are Armstead Joyner, Henderson, secretary; McArthur Newell of Jacksonville, president, Thur-

man Purnell of Weldon, second vice-president; James Adams of Wilkesboro, third vice-president; James Eaton of Littleton, reporter; Alexander Dawson of Belhaven, first vice-president; Milton Howell, of Conetoe, treasurer; and W. T. Johnson Sr., executive secretary.

New Farmers In Training Here

Atlanta Daily World
The Planning and Training Institute for the National Officers of the New Farmers of America is being held at the Butler Street, Y.M.C.A., Atlanta.

Jan 17-24-61
The purpose of this meeting is to make plans for the National Organization of the New Farmers of America, and to give leadership training to the National officers. The first session started at 9 a. m. Monday, January 23. In this meeting and outline of activities for the week was made. The Institute will close at noon Friday.

P. 1
While in the city of Atlanta, these young men will visit many of the businesses, and industries. It is expected that their stay here will be as enjoyable as in the past. The names and addresses of the student national officers and adult national officers are as follows: Harley H. Blane, president, Hopkinsville, Kentucky; Joseph Pear-

son, Vice - president, Enoree, The National Officers and Ad-South Carolina; Linwood Taylor, advisers are high in their praise of second vice - president, Lakeland, the many hospitalities and court-Florida; Travis DeHorney, third, desies shown them in Atlanta. vice - president, Prairie View, Texas; McArthur Newell, secretary, Jacksonville, North Carolina; Henry Dennis Simms, treasurer, Langston, Okla.; Vernon L. Campbell, reporter, Fitzgerald, Georgia, all Student National Officers. National Adult Officers: W. T. Spanton, Administrative Advisor National Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D. C.; R. E. Naugher, Administrative Executive Secretary Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington D. C. At The Colleges: E. M. Norris, Executive secretary, Prairie View, Texas; G. W. Conolly, Advisor, Florida A. and M. College, Tallahassee, Florida; W. T. Johnson, Executive treasurer, A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C.

New Farmers To Meet In Atlanta

P. 1

The New Farmers of America, a national organization of boys studying vocational agriculture in high school, will hold its 27th annual convention in the Municipal Auditorium, Atlanta, Georgia, October 2-5. The NFA was organized nationally in August, 1935.

Lee Evans, President, Board of Aldermen, Atlanta, Georgia, will welcome the group of approximately 1000 New Farmers to the City in an address at 7:30 p. m., October 2. Also, Dr. W. J. James, College Music Director, will conduct a musical program at the opening session. The guest groups will be from the music departments of Morehouse and Spelman Colleges.

Other headlined speakers scheduled for the four-day sessions include Dr. H. A. Bowen, Superintendent Area I, Atlanta Public Schools, Atlanta, Georgia; John C. Denton, President, Spencer Chemical Company, Kansas City, Missouri and Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee for the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc.; G. L. Smith, Dean, School of Agriculture, Prairie View A. & M. College, Prairie View, Texas; and Floyd D. Johnson, President National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, York, South Carolina.

The business of the convention is conducted by the seven National officers and the official NFA delegates. There are 50 official delegates from the 15 States, represented at the convention. Delegates serve on various committees, take part in floor discussions and vote on business matters. Harley H. Blane, Route 2, Hopkinsville, Kentucky, is National NFA President. The other National officers who will help him are Joseph Pearson, 1st Vice President, Route 1, Box 24, Enoree, South Carolina; Lynwood Taylor, 2nd Vice President, Box 3063, Lakeland, Florida; Travis Dehorney, 3rd Vice President, Rt. 1 Box 111, Ravenna, Texas; McArthur Newell, Secretary, Route 2, Box 263, Jacksonville, North Carolina; Henry Dennis Simms, Reporter, Langston University, Langston, Oklahoma; and Vernon L. Campbell, Treasurer, Route 3, Box 193, Fitzgerald, Georgia.

A popular feature of the annual conventions that will be continued this year is the National NFA Chorus, directed by Ira S. Glover, teacher of vocational agriculture at Sylvester, Georgia. The chorus is composed of approximately 60

at the final session on Thursday night. This award is made annually to former NFA members who have made the most progress in becoming established in farming in not more than ten years out of high school. The national winner will receive \$500, and two other sectional winners will receive \$250 each. At this final session, FFA Foundation awards also will be made to winners in the Quiz, Quartet, Public Speaking and Livestock Judging Contests. The convention will adjourn with the installation of the new officers.

members, with the winning quartet from each of the 15 States entitled to participate.

The official delegates and NFA members attending the convention will be guests of the Southeastern Fair Association on Monday afternoon, October 2. Transportation will be provided on special buses to and from the fair grounds. The National NFA Livestock Judging Contest will be held on the fair grounds that afternoon, beginning at 1:30 o'clock.

The Superior Farmer degrees will be presented to 35 outstanding NFA members on Tuesday morning, October 3. This degree is presented to the top individual out of each 1,000 members. Honorary degrees will be presented to eight teachers of vocational agriculture and 12 lay leaders who have rendered outstanding service to the national organization.

On Tuesday evening the Star Superior Farmers will be recognized. The Star Superior Farmer of America will receive an award of \$500, and two sectional Star Superior Farmers will be awarded \$250 each. The awards are given annually by the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., for outstanding achievement in farming and leadership in the NFA.

Following the Star Farmer pageantry donor representatives of the FFA Foundation will be seated on the stage and introduced. At this time the establishment in farming awards will be presented to the three top NFA members in each of the following areas: Dairy Farming, Farm Electrification, Farm Mechanics, Farm and Home Improvement, and Soil and Water Management. Concluding this program, Mr. Denton will speak to the group as a donor representative interested in youth activities.

The program on Wednesday will feature an address by Dr. Bowen, Superintendent Area I, Schools in Atlanta. This address will be followed by business sessions, as well as the Quartet and Talent Contests.

The Public Speaking Contest will be held on Thursday morning along with reports of standing committees. One of the highlights of the convention will be the presentation of the H. O. Sargent Award

Support For Governor

NC Homemakers And New Farmers Hold Conference

GREENSBORO, N. C. —

The Farmers and Homemakers Conferences and the Rural and Town Ministers Institute, holding sessions last week at A. and T. College, voted "full support" to Governor Terry Sanford's program for North Carolina agriculture.

In a set of resolutions adopted at the closing, joint session on Friday morning, the two groups urged its memberships to embrace the program which calls for increased farm income, improved marketing and a step-up in the area and community development program.

NEW OFFICERS were installed for both groups. A Johnston county farmer will lead the farmer-homemaker group during the coming year. David Richardson of near Wendell, was installed as president. Other officers include: Mrs. Emma Johnson, Garysburg, first vice president; Mrs. Katie B. Grady,

Castle Hayne, second vice president and A. W. Solomon, Raleigh, field representative of the N. C. Farm bureau Federation, secretary-treasurer.

The Rev. J. D. Ray, Southern Pines, moderator of the Cape Fear Conference, "A" Division, of the United Free Will Baptist church was elected president of the minister's group. Other officers installed at the meeting were the Rev. J. J. Johnson, Fairmont, vice president and the Rev. Herman Hines Jr., Snow Hill, secretary.

THE REV. CLEO M. McCoy, director of religious activities at A. and T. College and H. M. McNeil, staff member of the A. and T. College Extension Service, will continue as director and co-director, respectively.

The Rev. Mr. McCoy stated the enrollment of 71-ministers at the four-day meet was the largest in the eight year history.

During the weeklong conferences, beginning on Tuesday, June 13, and extending through June 16, main addresses were delivered by Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, president of the college; R. E. Jones, state agent, in charge of the A. and T. College Extension Service and Marion Wright, Linville Falls, N. C., attorney and a member of the N. C. Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Horace D. Godfrey, administrator, Commodity Stabilization Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., urged the elimination of the use of MH-30. Appearing as a panelist he told the group, "The changes in chemical and physical properties of cigarette leaf brought about by this chemical suggest severe economic repercussions." He said the loss of filling capacity threatens to reduce the sale of U. S. leaf to high duty countries which took 43 per cent of U. S. flue-cured leaf exports in 1960.

JOHNSTON COUNTY, with a delegation of 78 persons, won the attendance award. The silver loving cup was presented to Mrs. Pearlina Williams, Clayton Home Demonstration Women's Club leader, by the Rev. K. O. P. Goodwin, Winston-Salem, a faculty member of the Minister's Institute.

1b 1961

NEW FARMERS OF AMERICA

LOUISIANA YOUTH WINS FARMERS TOP AWARD

Atlanta Ga
Wed 10-11-61
Joseph Elmore Route 1, Washington, La., a 21-year-old member of the Lincoln High School chapter of New Farmers of America, was named winner Tuesday night of the NFA's National Star Superior Farmer award and was presented a \$500 check from the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc.

The awards for outstanding leadership and achievements in farming were presented during the Tuesday evening session of the 27th annual New Farmers of America convention in Atlanta's Municipal Auditorium. The convention opened Monday evening and will be concluded Thursday night with the election and installation of new national NFA officers.

Only one NFA member in 1,000 may receive the Superior Farmer degree in any one year. The Star Superior Farmers are the three top young farmers of the 35 who received the degree this year. They were selected on the basis of achievement in farming and rural leadership. Competition is keen, for this is the top award presented to members of the organization.

THIRTY-FIVE RECEIVE SUPERIOR DEGREES

Thirty-five other youths received the Superior Farmers Degree for 1961 earlier Tuesday. These awards carry prizes of \$100 each. The youths represented nine states. They are as follows:

Alabama: Thomas E. Austin, Thomasville, Ala.; Clarence Davis, Decatur, Ala.; R. C. Fowlkes Jr., Marion Ala., and Lucious Morrow, Eutaw, Ala.

Arkansas: Claude Kennedy, Jr., Marianna.

Florida: Earl H. Clark, Quincy, and Woodrow Presha, also of Quincy.

Georgia: Waymond R. Aker, Calhoun, Paul Elder, Farmington, Joseph Hankins, Boston, James E. Mitchell, Valdosta, Owen Miley, Hahira, Lawrence Miller, Valdosta and John W. Murphy, Dixie.

Louisiana: Robert E. Dillon, Franklinton, Joseph Elmore, Washington, and Henry Henderson, Warden.

North Carolina: Herbert Best, Jr., LaGrange, Weldon Graves, Burlington, Henry Lucas, Willson, Charlie S. Miles Mebane, Raymond Mitchell, Rural Hall, Irvin Ratley, Jr., Fairmont, Richard Robbins, Ahoskie, and Wilbur Smith, Ash.

South Carolina: Robert L. Green,

Santee; James Hall, Irmo; David Mason, Johnston, Hazel McQueen, Cheraw.

Texas: Alton Dacus, Jr., Naples; Benny Graves, Kosse, Milton Traylor, Naples.

Virginia: Edward Bernard, Mannboro, John D. Carter, Rochelle and John E. Strother, Boston.

Judges Of Plant To Prosper Begin Search For Winners

By RICHARD BAILEY

Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

State judging of farm families entered in The Commercial Appeal's 1961 Plant to Prosper contest will begin tomorrow in Tennessee. It will end five weeks later in Mississippi.

During the five-week period, state judging teams will visit outstanding farm families who have planted to prosper in Tennessee, Arkansas, Missouri and Mississippi.

At stake for contestants will be recognition for a job well done plus cash prizes totaling more than \$2,500 to be distributed to state and sweepstakes winners in landowner, tenant and home improvement divisions.

The contest, open to both white and Negro farmers, is sponsored by The Commercial Appeal in co-operation with the Agricultural Extension Service, Farmers Home Administration and other agricultural agencies in the four states.

Score Cards Listed

Plant to Prosper, now in its 28th year, assists and encourages farm families of the Mid-South to establish a better balanced, more stable and prosperous agriculture and recognizes families who do an outstanding job of farming and homemaking.

Contestants are scored 50 per cent for efficient farm planning and improvement, 40 per cent for efficient home planning and improvement and 10 per cent for participation in community life.

Tennessee counties to be judged this week are Shelby, Tipton, Chester, Henderson, Gibson, Dyer, Decatur, Carroll, Crockett and Henry.

Champion farmers in Fayette, Hardeman, McNairy, Hardin, Haywood and Madison counties will be visited next week.

Judges are Miss Margaret Clem and William Hicks of the Agricultural Extension Service in Knoxville, Harold L. Warner of the Farmers Home Administration in Nashville, H. T. Short and Clinton Shelby of Jackson, district supervisors of agricultural programs; and Miss Estelle Vines of Jackson, district supervisor of home economics.

Rallies In December

Judging will be held in Arkansas, Oct. 23-27; Missouri, Oct. 30-Nov. 3; and Mississippi,

Wades, Smiths Win Farm Cash

Plant To Prosper Selects
Tenant, Landowner In
Monroe And Lee

Two farm families from Lee and Monroe counties were selected yesterday as Arkansas' top Negro winners in The Commercial Appeal's 1961 Plant to Prosper contest.

State judges named Mr. and Mrs. Nute Smith of Marianna the top landowners and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Wade of Holly Grove the best tenants. As first place winners each family will receive a cash prize of \$50 and a chance to compete with divisional champions from Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee for a sweepstakes award of \$250.

The two Eastern Arkansas families were chosen on the basis of farm and home improvements made during the past year.

Second place landowner honors went to Mr. and Mrs. Masco Anderson of Marvell. Mr. and Mrs. Ryce Bell of Forrest City won fourth.

Other tenant division winners were Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Richard of Clarkdale, second; Mr. and Mrs. C. L. West of Weldon, third; and Mr. and Mrs. James Moore, fourth.

Awards will be presented to state and sweepstakes winners at the annual Negro Plant to Prosper Rally here Dec. 1 at Booker T. Washington High School.

PLANT TO PROSPER CONTEST



TOP LANDOWNER — Nute Smith (right) of Marianna, Ark., is the state Negro landowner champion in The Commercial Appeal's 1961 Plant to Prosper con-

test. Helping the Lee County farmer achieve his goal were his daughter, Charlette, 13, and extension agent Henry A. Smith Jr. (no relation).